



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Mahant, Vijay; Doneen, Byron	Group No.: 1641
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Application No.: 09/261,068

Examiner: G. Gabel

Filed: 03/02/1999

For:

Methods and Apparatus for Separation of Biological Fluids

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. section 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP RECEIVED
DEC U Ø 1999
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Box AF Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. sections 1.8(a) and 1.10*

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

MAILING

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37 C.F.R. section 1.8(a)

37 C.F.R. section 1.10*

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TRANSMISSION

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Date: 12/2/99

Collene Houston

(Amendment or Response After Final Rejection--Transmittal--page 1 of3)

AMENDMENT OR RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION--TRANSMITTAL

1. Transmitted herewith is an amendment after final rejection (37 C.F.R. 1.116) for this application.

STATUS

2. Applicant is a small entity. A statement was already filed.

EXTENSION OF TERM

3. The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136 apply. Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

FEE FOR CLAIMS

4. The fee for claims (37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)-(d)) has been calculated as shown below:

(Col.1)			(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)	SMALL ENTITY	,	
	Claims Remaining After Amendmen	_	Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Addit. Fee	
Total	129	Minus	129	= 0	x \$9 =	\$0	
Indep.	1	Minus	3	= 0	x \$39 =	\$0	
First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim				+ \$130 =	\$0	 	
					Total Addit. Fee	\$0	

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "O" in Col. 3,

No additional fee for claims is required.

FEE DEFICIENCY

5. If any additional extension and/or fee is required, charge Account No. 500341.

Date: /2/2/99

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Patent Attny. Dtr. No. 560.02-US1

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Inventor: Mahant, V.

Serial No: 09/261,068

Filed:

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Methods and Apparatus for

Separation of Biological Fluids

Examiner: Gabel, G.

Art Unit: 1641

RECEIVED

DEC U & 1999

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

The Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This paper responds to the Office Action dated November 9, 1999, Paper No. 5. Please enter the following:

IN THE CLAIMS

July 12 Can

(Twice amended) A method of separating a sample containing blood cells into a cell containing portion and a substantially cell depleted portion comprising:

receiving the sample in a vessel, wherein the vessel retains the sample within a plurality of confining walls;

providing an additive and particles, wherein the additive [has substantial binding]

substantially binds to the cells and the particles and wherein the particles [have substantial binding] substantially bind to the cells and the additive;

combining the sample, the additive, and the particles to produce a cell containing network; and

separating the network from the substantially cell depleted portion by applying a force, wherein the force comprises a magnetic force.